

REMARKS

The Examiner has required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following groups of inventions:

Group I: Claims 1, 2, 4-24, 85 and 86 (in part), drawn to a method of detection or measuring Notch activation in a cell, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1;

Group II: Claims 32-58, 79, 86 (in part) and 88 (in part), drawn to a method of identification of a Notch modulator, classified in class 435, subclass 7.21;

Group III: Claims 59-67 and 86 (in part), drawn to a method of identification of a Notch modulator by detecting cleavage products, classified in class 435, subclass 3;

Group IV: Claims 68-75 and 86 (in part), drawn to a method of identification of a Notch modulator by detecting cleavage products in the presence of cellular proteins, classified in class 424, subclass 1.69;

Group V: Claims 76-78, 81, 87 and 89, drawn to a purified heterodimeric form of Notch, classified in class 514, subclass 2;

Group VI: Claims 80, 82 and 90, drawn to a purified fragment of Notch, classified in class 530, subclass 350; and

Group VII: Claims 83, 84, 91 and 92, drawn to a composition containing a specific sequence of Notch, classified in class 530, subclass 324.

The Examiner contends that the inventions of the above Groups are distinct, each from the other.


Applicants note that claim 88, which depends from claims 37, 60 or 71 is included in Group II in part since claim 88 depends from claim 37. However, since claim 88 also depends from claims 60 and 71, Applicants believe that Groups III and IV should be modified to include claim 88 (in part). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner modify Groups III and IV to include claim 88 (in part).

In order to be fully responsive, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group III, claims 59-67 and 86 (in part) and 88 (in part), drawn to a method of identification of a Notch modulator by detecting cleavage products, classified in class 435, subclass 3.

Applicants respectfully request that the above-made remarks be made of record in the file history of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure